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J17669D



VOLUME 5

Atlanta, Georgia - September 1939

NUMBER 9

A WORKABLE SYSTEM OF PLANNING FIELD JOBS

For the past few years we have been struggling with various systems of planning Rangers' and Supervisors' work loads. The writer has been personally "exposed" to them for the past four years, and has struggled with the different systems brought forth by the head offices.

Last year, to my mind, the most workable system to date was brought out. Instead of attempting to say a month or more in advance that we would be at John Jones' place on the 28th to get a Certificate of Possession, or something similar, we took our list of jobs from the Trip and Job Plan which was set up at the beginning of the month, considered jobs unforeseen at the beginning of the month, and made up our trip schedule. That got the job done more systematically than anything to date, and gave us a system of work planning which, I believe, everyone agrees a well organized and efficient organization must have. The saving in time of preparation and adherence over the old Form 26-a amounted to nearly two days per month, and the intangible saving on our disposition cannot even be estimated.

Monthly Job List and Trip Planning

Instructions contained in the Regional Forester's O-PLANS, Job Load Analysis, letter of June 4, 1938, under the heading Monthly Job List, Step 4, were as follows, "Trip number or work area symbol for each field job, the same number or symbol to be used for all jobs which may be tentatively grouped for their systemized accomplishment."

For Trip Planning the writer at first used work area symbols after dividing his Ranger District of 373,000 acres into nine work areas. This tied the job down to areas of from 30,000 acres up, but it was still necessary to give considerable study to a map and, in the case of a large number of field jobs, to indicate on a map their exact location before efficient trip planning could be done. In order to simplify the procedure the following system was adopted and tried out with excellent results:

A map of the Ranger District was mounted on a drawing board and hung on the wall of the office by two screw eyes. Beside the map a letter size clip board and another small clip were hung. When the Trip and Job Plan, Form 578, is made up the location of each field job (Township, Range, Section or Settlement) is indicated in the column "Job No." opposite the job description on Form 578. Jobs are numbered consecutively from one (1) up and a numbered map pin is placed at the exact location of the job on the mounted map. For example, perhaps a request for a Certificate of Possession is received from the Supervisor, a Special Use area must be examined, a school or individual is to be contacted, or a Timber Sale or other large project is to be administered. All of these can be tied down to a definite location on the ground. Each is given a number on the Trip and Job Plan and a corresponding numbered tack placed on the map. A picture of the field jobs to be done there stare one in the face every time he looks at the work map.

The clip board is used to hold all memoranda or letters from the Supervisor or other sources where field work is to be done. Each letter or memorandum is given a number corresponding to the number on the Trip and Job Plan and map. Current field jobs as they develop are not placed in an action basket but when received the memorandum is immediately given a number, the job entered on the Trip and Job Plan, and a numbered tack placed on the map board. In this way the current work load is always up to date. Any field jobs, regardless of their nature or source, can in that way be planned. If no written request is received, a note is written giving character of the job, location, the job is numbered and the note hung on the clip board. Project jobs carried on by the CCC Camps where attention is required by the Ranger are also listed on Form 578 and numbered the same as other jobs.

How It Works

As previously stated, the map board is used primarily for trip planning. The tacks are located at the exact place where the job is to be done. When a field trip is planned in any particular area the arrangement of the tacks is noted and very quickly the best route of travel to pick up the jobs can be planned. That settles the first step, which is the route of travel. The next step is to list on your 874-C notebook sheet the job number (taken from map) and job description (taken from Form 578). Memoranda or other information concerning the job are removed from the clip board and carried in a brief case.

The rest of the procedure is about as outlined in the Regional Forester's letter of June 4. Special equipment and supplies needed are noted, as jobs are completed they are ruled out, and on returning to Headquarters the numbered pin is removed from the map for each completed job. Pins are not removed until the job is completed, except at the time the new monthly Form 578 is made up. The small clip is used to hold completed trip plans on Form 874-C notebook sheet.

Monthly Planning

At the end of the month when the Trip and Job Plan is prepared for the following month, all pins representing unfinished jobs are removed from the map board. Jobs on Form 578 are numbered in consecutive order and the pins replaced at the location specified. This avoids confusion when comparing a pin number against the Trip and Job Plan. All material remaining in the clip board must also be renumbered. This requires but a few minutes as usually no large number of jobs is carried over. The Trip Plans are removed from the small clip and stapled to the completed Form 578 and the system is ready to start over.

The main advantage to be gained is that the above system gives a picture as well as a list of what is to be done and where. By sitting in the much discussed swivel chair the Ranger can see at a glance where his field jobs are. He can pick out the best way to reach them, picking them up in order; and by adding current jobs to the map and Form 578 as they arise and eliminating them when they are done, his field Work Load is always before his eyes and up to date. There seems to be no reason why this plan could not be extended to the Supervisor's office or even higher up with good results.

-- F. M. Meade, District Ranger
Bayou District, Ozark National Forest

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OKLAHOMA FARMER NETS \$12,720 IN 12 YEARS FROM 12 ACRES OF CATALPA TREES

One of the most interesting news releases that has come our way in a long row of milestones was the one sent out recently by the Oklahoma Division of Forestry which was the story of a farmer and catalpa trees.

Mr. Keely's 12 acres of catalpa trees are just off to the south side of Highway No. 66, east of Arcadia, in Oklahoma County. In 1936 that patch of trees netted their owner \$4,120. In 1935, he cut \$2,080 worth of wood and not a tree has been harmed. But now go on with the story:

"Of course, the last two years were exceptional years. Mr. Keely admits that. But \$6,200 in cash is a tidy army of ironmen from a sideline source even in two unusual years. Mr. Keely is really a farmer. The trees are just secondary to his regularly harvested crops. The

whole story is that 20 years ago, Mr. Keely was smart enough to realize that all farmers have to buy fence posts and wood for building country houses. Wood is expensive. He decided to look ahead. He bought \$75.00 worth of young Catalpa trees and planted them to the side of the road where crops would not do particularly well.

"He let them grow untrimmed for seven years. Then, he sawed his first posts. In the last 12 years, that \$75.00 output has netted him \$12,720. Last year, the income from the 12 acres totaled \$343 an acre. Over the entire 20-year period, the income has averaged \$50.00 an acre per year. That is a sizeable return, considering that growing trees require little care after becoming established.

"After a tree has grown to cutting size, Mr. Keely does his sawing. A new array of shoots come up from the stump the following spring. He selects one of the shoots to become the new tree and trims away all of the others. He continues to favor this one as other shoots make their appearance."

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THE FINAL KICK

Referring to Assistant Forester Mayer's article on the Choctawhatchee's high-powered sales promotion, which appeared in the August 1939 Dixie Ranger, beg to state that the fever of confession among timber operators has spread northward even into the Francis Marion.

The past week this writer was advised by one purchaser that pine logs, of swamp origin, were so "dog-goned" big it was necessary to quit operating on Uncle Sam for ten days while little logs, to fill a low quality order, were chased from other sources.

Even though "punch drunk" over such never-before-encountered honesty, the undersigned feigned nonchalance (not experienced) and afforded assurance that the seriousness of such a "Crisis" would be recognized by the Supervisor, and that the purchaser could confidently progress with his "chasing."

-- Norman R. Hawley,
South Carolina National Forests

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ANOTHER TALL ONE

We have all read much about the giant poplars of the southern Appalachians, the valuable oaks of the Ozarks, and the cypresses of Florida. But the humble southern pine seemed destined to continue in ignominy to produce a paltry 20 MBF or 50 cords of pulpwood per acre, not to mention resin, distillate, and what not, unrecognized by its prouder cousins and unsung by the Region 8 News Bulletin. Who, for instance, has ever heard before of such circumstances as are related in the following quotation from an Alexandria, Louisiana, newspaper?

165-FOOT PINE TREE NEAR URANIA

"A citizen of Rapides who visited Urania yesterday says he saw a short-leaf pine tree which is 165 feet high. The tree is on land of the Urania Lumber Company about four miles from Urania. There is approximately 140 feet of the main part of the trunk, the remainder being branches and limbs. It is several feet in circumstances.

"This tree, he said, stands out conspicuously in a forest of many other pine trees. It bears a sign which says:

"SENTINEL OF THE FOREST"

Those who have seen the tree say it is worth seeing, and those who visit Urania should go and inspect it."

In all seriousness, this is quite a tree (for Louisiana) and it is still thrifty and growing.

-- L. E. Fitch,
Kisatchie National Forest

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CHEROKEE CHALLENGES OZARK'S NON-ACCIDENT RECORD

CCC Camp Tennessee F-5 at Unicoi, Tennessee, under the supervision of Project Superintendent James A. French, Jr., assisted by various camp commanders, has not had a lost-time accident since April 1937, during which time there were 71,755 man-days of work. Other camps on the Forest also have enviable records. The work of our camps is apparently along the same lines and of equal hazard as that in the Arkansas hills.

-- Paul H. Gerrard,
Cherokee National Forest

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THE LION AND THE LAMB LIE DOWN TOGETHER

At least Leo the Lion has invaded the Fawn Farm and is on friendly terms with the deer and the personnel. About a year ago, I & E began correspondence with the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio relative to an outdoor film based on the operations at the Fawn plant. Motion picture officials grasped the possibilities for such a film, and early in September Producer O. O. Dull and Director Chester Franklin met Clint Davis at Asheville to check first hand all the factors involved in such an undertaking. Both M.G.M. officials were enthusiastic about what could be done with the Southern Appalachians for locale. More than three thousand feet of film were shot in and around the Fawn Plant on the Pisgah, and a visit was made to the Joyce Kilmer Memorial

Forest on the Nantahala and to points on the Chattahoochee. With the natural scenic beauty of the region, the interest of the Fawn Plant, and the wealth of Indian lore and legend, the motion picture officials think that a film can be developed which will rival "Sequoia" in beauty and appeal.

Regional Forester Kircher has just received a letter from Mr. Dull expressing appreciation for the fine cooperation received from the Regional Office and Pisgah personnel, and stating that he was greatly impressed by the things he saw and heard in the Region.

We only hope that Johnnie Squires and John Eller don't get an urge to trade the glory of the Appalachians for the glamour of Hollywood and "buck" fever for the Klieg lights.

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NEW ALL-SOUTHERN FIRE PREVENTION FILM COMPLETED

The long-felt need for a truly southern fire prevention film is now realized. A two-reel feature entitled "Pineways to Profit" was filmed in the Region this past spring by Motion Picture Director W. A. Luey from Washington, assisted by personnel of the Divisions of I & E and S & PF.

By showing a number of outlets for forest products, the harm done by fire to land producing them, and the necessary action to prevent such damage, the film aims at convincing the small farmer that keeping fire out of the woods means cash in his pocket.

Sufficient prints of this sound movie will be available for use by National Forest and State organizations in their prevention campaigns this fall.

-- W. C. Branch,
Regional Office

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NO TIME WASTED:

Plumber (arriving late): "Well, how is it?"

Happy Husband: "Not so bad; while we were waiting for you I taught my wife to swim."

-- Daily Contact - Region 9

PAGE THE WEATHERMAN:

One ranger in New Mexico reports, "Any one wanting to fish in San Antonio, Nutrias or Vallecitos Creeks should bring their own water as creeks are almost dry."

-- Daily Bulletin
Southwestern Region

NEWS ITEM FROM THE PISGAH

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation sponsors a sports review over Station WROL in Knoxville every Wednesday evening. Assistant Supervisor Squires of the Pisgah National Forest was recently asked to appear on this program. As he had formerly been a member of the Tennessee Wildlife Federation, this was an especial honor. A recording of Mr. Squires' talk on the Pisgah National Forest Fawn Farm was made, and after the program was over he had the privilege of relaxing in a nice, comfortable chair and listening to himself make the speech!

-- Faye Mulholland,
Pisgah National Forest

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A MAN HAS JUST PASSED ON

Clyde Reed of Ashville, North Carolina, who was with the CCC as Project Superintendent and also in charge of all the quarry work on the old Nantahala up to about two years ago, has left us. His going leaves an unfilled place in the lives of all who knew him. Every man, woman and child who came in contact with him will never forget his genial face, pleasant smile and friendly greeting. In adversity or affluence, he was always the same. He gave all he had to his work, and to the CCC enrollee he was a real father, ready to help and assist. He willingly carried out the orders of his superiors. His ready sympathy and encouragement never failed a friend in his hour of need.

To his son and sister who survive him, we offer our condolences.

A MAN has just passed on.

-- H. B. Morse,
Regional Office

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The personnel of the Region extends deepest sympathy to John E. Black of the Division of Engineering in the death of his wife on August 31.

FLORIDA FIRE LIGHTERS

After a year of attention from Ranger Joe McCullough, the fire situation on the Wakulla District of the Apalachicola, formerly a resettlement area, is apparently too well in hand. To avoid lack of exercise, dull days during the fire season ahead and insufficient incendiarism, a recently issued 202c permit provided that the "permittee agrees to light fires within one mile of sale area, free of charge." While the restrictions to a one mile zone is rather unsportsmanlike, a nice sprinkling of such sales over the district should provide some good clean fun. Of course, it might have been a typographical error, since such a clause is somewhat in opposition to Ranger Joe's unpublished theme song on the Wakulla, i.e., "For _____ sake don't burn the woods."

-- K. R. Mayer,
Florida National Forests.

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DIXIE'S TREES ARE TREES

"Trees of the South," is the title of a recent book, interestingly and beautifully done by the author, Charlotte Hilton Green, and the University of North Carolina Press. The very pleasing Foreword is written by State Forester J. S. Holmes.

Donald Culross Peattie has written in the New York Herald Tribune "Books" of August 6, 1939 a delightful review of Mrs. Green's book. It is captioned DIXIE'S TREES ARE TREES and Mr. Peattie says in part:

"There are more kinds of trees in one small North Carolina county than in the whole of Europe, and the sylva of North Carolina is much richer than that of California or the whole of New England and middle Atlantic states together. Here then is splendid timber for a popular book, and Mrs. Green has made a handsome job of it. The illustrations are genuinely fine--photographs, many of them, from the famous files of the Forest Service in Washington and the Arnold Arboretum near Boston"...

Mr. Peattie considers the title overambitious, since Florida "with the richest tree flora in the United States" is quite overlooked, and since the unusual and splendid forests of Texas fare little better. He explains this "intra-sectional discrimination" in the following paragraph:

"The Carolinas probably affect Mrs. Green as they do me -- when you're there, under pines and magnolias, you can't imagine that any other forests in the world are worth leaving these lovely ones to go and see. The Northern trees cannot touch the Southern, even for autumn colors, much less for spring floweriness. All this wealth breathes from Mrs. Green's pages. She has done a grand job of popularization and if I.M.P., who writes "Turns With a Bookworm" in this sheet, ever tries again to impress me with the sylva of Connecticut, I am going to have her taken in chains (under the Dred Scott decision or something) to the Nantahala National Forest, and shown trees that are trees."

A copy of Mrs. Green's book is in the Regional Office Library.

R. O. TENNIS CLUB - A MEMORY

Without the fan-fare of Gabriel's trumpet; without the eulogy of a distinguished speaker; without so much as a withered forget-me-not; without even a decent burial in a pauper's grave -- the last rites of the R. O. Tennis Club were observed at the Rosedale Tennis Courts August 26, 1939.

Due to the tremendous influence of the persons guilty of this heinous crime, no inquest was held and no charges preferred -- expediency demanded that the dead club verily "bury itself."

Ritual ceremonies were as follows: Crawford interred Colley; Mynatt buried Florence; Cain planted Worthen; Sloan and Colley sodded Pettay and Florence; Jennings dirted Davis; Davis and Cain laid Jennings and Worthen to rest.

In accordance with the best traditions abroad, the entire wealth left by the deceased was squandered in this glorious observation of the club's passing.

All mourning former members did their duty by attending this final tribute in their gayest and most hilarious mood.

-- Hubert C. Cain, President of the
now defunct, extinct, and unlamented
R. O. Tennis Club.

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OUR THANKS TO YOU

Sincerest thanks go to the folks who responded so generously to the plea for used magazines which appeared in the June ('39) "Dixie Ranger" under the caption "Lookout Libraries." A goodly collection of "Life," "Time," "American Forests," "Colliers," "Readers Digest" and other periodicals grew from the donations of these people who were willing to "share the wealth" of their reading with fellow-citizens far removed from the printed page.

It is suggested to forest supervisors that perhaps they would like to collect similar gifts in their offices, to send to the lookout towers. In the meantime, the regional library is glad at all times to receive for transmittal any and all magazines from the regional office staff.

-- Rachel Lane, Librarian

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An Irishman had been describing his travels in the South and the "virgin forests" there. "What is a 'virgin forest?'" asked an auditor. "Shure, now," said the Irishman, "a virgin forest is a place where the hand of man has never set foot."

-- Clipped

KOEN ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE ARKANSAS
STATE FORESTRY COMMISSION

Supervisor H. R. Koen, on September 5, was elected chairman of the Arkansas State Forestry Commission to fill the vacancy created by the recent death of Albert Strauss.

J. L. Arnold was named to succeed Koen as vice chairman. The Commission selected State Forester Fred H. Lang as its representative of the State Planning Board.

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CCC HONOR AWARDS

A recent letter from John D. Guthrie to Regional Foresters, Liaison Officers and others deserves the serious consideration of Forest Service officers. The Certificate for Valor and the American Fire Medal were the subjects of Mr. Guthrie's letter. The letter states that 34 Certificates for Valor have been awarded to enrollees by the Director, but not one of these has been granted for fighting forest fires. "This in spite of the fact that during the first 5 years of the Corps, 4,096,610 man-days were put in by the CCC on fire fighting and 50 boys have been burned to death by forest fires." In view of this record, one wonders with Major Guthrie if this is because no CCC youths have distinguished themselves in fire fighting, or if it is due to a lack of understanding of the requirements for the Valor award, or if it is just a plain lack of interest on the part of field forest officers. Those not familiar with the requirements for the Certificate for Valor are referred to War Department CCC Regulations, pages 136-137, especially paragraphs 180,183-184.

In his request that we give consideration to this important aid in personnel management and human relations, Mr. Guthrie has the following to say:

"The Forest Service and the State forestry departments have long prided themselves on their esprit de corps and their sense of human values. Have we been treating these CCC kids right? Have we given them all the advance fire training we could? On the whole, they have done an outstanding job in fire fighting, have done the best they knew how. They have shown courage, enthusiasm, and stamina far beyond what one could expect from their backgrounds. If you believe that any of them can qualify (even posthumously) for the Certificate of Valor, why not put up their cases? Such cases may be initiated either by the using agencies or the Army, but in any case they will have to come up through military channels. The supervisory personnel in the camps should initiate action in forest fire cases."

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One of the best things to have up your sleeve is a funny-bone.

BARGAINS IN BOOKS

The University Society, Publishers of Educational Books, 468 Fourth Avenue, New York City, is offering to members of the Service and to Game Wardens on fish and game management areas a six-volume "Nature Lovers Library" consisting of the following books:

Volumes I, II and III - Birds of America

Volume IV - Mammals of America

Volume V - Mammals of Other Lands

Volume VI - Birds of Other Lands; Reptiles, Fish and Lower Forms of Animal Life of the World.

These books are 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11-3/8", containing over 2,000 pictures and color plates, bound in heavy green buckram, and printed on enameled paper with complete index, glossary and identification keys. They make up the original edition from which the currently advertised and condensed books "Birds of America" at \$3.95 and "Animals of America" at \$2.50 are published.

The original price was \$34.50 for the six volumes; the special price, while the supply lasts, to members of the Service and game wardens is \$7 per set plus postage. Send your order direct to the Society.

-- Milton M. Bryan

NOTE: The regional library has on file a library copy of the condensed editions of "Birds of America" (now selling at \$3.50) and "Animals of America" (at \$2.25), which are available to anyone who may wish to look at them before purchasing a set.

GEORGIA HOLDS SCHOOL FOR GAME PROTECTORS

The Georgia Division of Wild Life held a school during the second week in August for candidates for Georgia's game protectors. At the end of the school, an examination determined the personnel of the revised staff of protectors. Specialists and authorities on all phases of game management lectured to the class. Art Schilling and Clint Davis from the regional office took part in the program. In a letter received from Director Charles N. Elliott of the Division of Wild Life, he says in part: "Out of the 100 men who attended the school, approximately 65 will be selected on a merit basis. These men will be placed into various sections of the State, and will, I think, through your efforts and the efforts of others who helped us in our program, be able to carry on wild life preservation in a manner far more successful than they would have had they gone into the job without the knowledge they now possess. All of us thank you for your kind contribution, and hope that you may continue to work with us toward making Georgia the finest place in the nation in which to hunt and fish."

PERSONNEL CHANGES

On August 1 Kenneth F. Reamey was probationally appointed as Junior Civil Engineer on the Ouachita and is assigned to the Supervisor's office.

The transfer of Mrs. Georgia M. Rose as Junior Stenographer from the Federal Securities Agency to the Regional Division of Operation has been effected recently.

William R. Flynn recently resigned his position as Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the Ouachita Supervisor's office to accept employment with the U. S. Engineer Office in Tulsa.

Edward B. McIntyre has been restored to the rolls from furlough as Minor Assistant to Technician on the Chattahoochee National Forest, where he is engaged in acquisition activities.

Wilton Russell Brinkley recently resigned his position as Minor Assistant to Technician on the Wayah Ranger District of the Nantahala to continue his education.

Probational appointment of Simeon A. Pintado as Minor Scaler on the Cold Springs Ranger District of the Ouachita was effected August 16.

Benjamin A. Peters, Abstractor, was transferred August 16 from the Sam Houston Ranger District on the Texas to the Ouachita Supervisor's office.

Mrs. Nancy M. Clark was recently probationally appointed as Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the Naval Stores Supervisor's office at Pensacola.

Leslie R. Holdridge, Associate Forester on the Caribbean National Forests, transferred on August 16 to the Tropical Forest Experiment Station at Rio Piedras, P. R.

Resignation has been accepted recently from Mrs. Emily M. Boyle, Under Clerk-Typist in the Supervisor's office of the Ouachita.

Intra-unit changes have been effected recently as follows:

Cherokee: Nicholas H. Meriwether, Foreman, C&M, from the Watauga to the Unaka District; Jr. Forester Clarence E. Anderson from the Supervisor's office to the Unaka Ranger District; Jr. Forester Henry G. Posey from the Watauga District Ranger's office to CCC Camp F-11 on that district.

Texas: James M. Graham, Abstractor, from the Angelina Ranger District to the Supervisor's office.

Ouachita: Motor Patrol Grader Operator Wiley F. Edwards from the Womble to the Mt. Magazine District; Motor Patrol Grader Operator Jack N. Wood from the Mt. Magazine to the Womble District.

Chattahoochee: Minor Assistant to Technician Hoy E. Miller from the Supervisor's office to the Tallulah Ranger District.

Pisgah & Croatan: Jr. Forester Charles I. Bottorf from the Mt. Mitchell to the Grandfather District; Jr. Forester Albert H. Maxwell from the Supervisor's office to the French Broad Ranger District.

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LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher, Assistant Regional Forester Evans and District Supervisor House of Jacksonville attended the first few days of the Naval Stores Conference held in Washington for the week beginning September 11. Mr. Kircher spent the last few days of the week at the Ranger Training School held on the Chattahoochee National Forest.

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Guillermo U. Ponce, supervisor at large of the Phillipine Forest Service visited the Coweeta Experimental Forest during August. He was in the States for the purpose of making studies of timber utilization. In company with officials from the Pisgah National Forest and the Appalachian Experiment Station, Mr. Ponce inspected mills operations near Marion.

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Professor C. C. Wisler, head of the hydraulic engineering department of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and one of the nation's outstanding hydrologists, has been at the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station almost a month where he is serving in an advisory capacity for the station's flood control survey.

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Miss Laura Duncan of the Division of Operation acquired a new name when she was married on August 20 to Thomas W. Davis. The Regional Office extends the best of good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

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A number of the regional office personnel heard with much enjoyment the lively broadcast covering the Caribbean Forest on the Farm and Home Hour on September 14. It was of especial interest because Bill Kramer and Mrs. Elizabeth Pitt, who did great credit to the Forest Service, are former members of the R-8 family.

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The Regional Office extends congratulations to Supervisor and Mrs. Wm. H. Fischer on the birth of a daughter, Martha Ann, on August 15.

Wm. R. Barbour of I & E took part in the August 14th program of the Future Farmers of America camp at Lake Jackson, Georgia. About 100 boys were in attendance. Mr. Barbour showed Forest Service motion picture films and talked on the aims and policies of the U. S. Forest Service, as exemplified on the Chattahoochee National Forest.

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R. S. Monahan from the Division of I & E in the Chief's office recently spent two weeks in the Region getting a bird's eye view of our territory and PR problems.

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Other Regional Office visitors during the month were: From the Washington Office, Assistant Chief C. E. Rachford, Jay Ward, S & PF, Lyall E. Peterson, Division of Land Planning, and Fred H. Miller, Personnel Management; Supervisors Koen, Fischer and Gerrard; Acting Supervisor Bennett; C. H. Coulter, Assistant State Forester, Tallahassee, Florida; John F. Preston, Chief Forester, SCS, Washington; and Arthur T. Upson, Director, Southwestern Experiment Station, Tucson, Arizona.

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Ranger A. K. Thurmond formerly of Puerto Rico, who has been on detail to the Washington office to assist in writing up the report on the recreation survey made last year, has returned to the Region, and is being assigned to the Regional office to handle the Manual Study Course to be given this winter.

THE FAMILY ALBUM

Parisian Paradox

Paris, Arkansas, in August was a town much too peaceful and serene. Something was lacking that had been a part of the place in July. The natives explained: "That there feller, Smith" had gone back to "do a short spell in Atlanta." The Great Mount Magazine project was in repose, due to the nation-wide WPA furlough and cut-down, so this outpost of the Ouachita was a little quiet. The streets of Paris echo hollowly in the warm evenings; sidewalks are rolled up by 9 p.m. A state of curfew seems to prevail by tacit consent of the citizenry which retires to its couches and fans early of an evening since the "life of the party" has been called back to the Atlanta "reforesters" office.

For an "alien" DeFord Smith earned his spurs with the Arkansans. It was a revelation to see him at work at the Lodge on the south rim of the Mighty Magazine. He was all over the place at once and repeatedly. The staccato of hammers and the rasp of saws were often punctuated and pierced by the sound of his voice. A split board would start the crescendo and a short-cut joist would bring out the falsetto in him. Gone were both professional placidity and his carefully modulated "dulcet" when Smith, wearing his 40 cent straw hat, farmer's style, and brandishing his 8 foot footrule (20 cents) was ariding of the job, bull-ganging the WPAers who had had limited experience in carpentry and none at all in stone masonry. Smith lectured, coaxed, wheedled, wheezed, swore (imagine!) and even danced, but he got results and won "converts." He learned what it was to build a swank hotel from his still swankier drawings with untutored help. But DeFord muddled through and the walls took shape, the stone joints improved, less waste mortar accumulated under the scaffold, the window sills "fell" into place and the rafters reared up to their full quarter pitch and the purlins blandly rode them down only to be in their turn overridden by the roof sheathing.

Toward the end of a typical day, Smith would look slightly frayed; the mustache slightly wilted. But after the 4 p.m. "whistle," he shed his working garb and personality and hastened to his sidewalk rocking chair in front of the Commercial Hotel on Main Street, which also is the Jefferson Davis Highway. Here in his leisure moments, Smith modelled the very latest in sheik shirts, stream-lined pants, gaudy gallusses, striped socks and mustache effects. Here his "following" would gather to seek a bit of advice on home remedies; to argue a bit of politics; to try outguessing the weatherman; and to counsel on domestic troubles. Smith displayed the sagacity of a Solomon, in dealing out to all and sundry, uncommitting (and totally unremitting) opinions.

In this dual personality, we have a genuine case of Dr. DeFord and Mr. Smith. By day, Smitty applied the footrule on the Magazine. By night, the Doc ruled the streets of Paris, thus relieving Ranger Bill Dale who managed to keep things stalled off all day from his office vantage overlooking the square. Now poor Bill Dale has it all to do, and his reports to write on top of that!

We have word that in Paris a movement is on foot to carve out a stone rocker on the original site before the hotel lobby, and to immortalize Dr. DeFord and Mr. Smith by the following epitaphic inscription on the back of the lithic rocking chair:

"Here set and rocked our DearFord Smith,
Sky-castles and sech he sweated with
The scorch-long day. But after dark
He was Our Cavalier of Parisark!"

-- Chigger Pete

(Editor's Note: The Family Album will be a regular feature if the column meets with reader approval. It is intended here to give a pen picture of some member of the R-8 family. As has been stated in these pages from time to time one of the functions of the Dixie Ranger is to keep us mutually acquainted with our work and each other - to serve as "the tie that binds" the family together. It is the personal touch that keeps alive the weekly newspapers of the country, and we believe that this type of material has a real place in our family news bulletin.

If our readers like the idea, it might be broadened to include places as well as persons - for instance, it might be interesting to carry descriptions of Ranger Districts. Chigger Pete has agreed to try to supply copy for the column, but contributions will be welcomed. Places and persons could be easily combined in one article which would tell the story of the Ranger District and of some interesting individual on the District.)